

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 5

Application Number	10/678,502
Filing Date	October 15, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michael S. Cropper et al.
Group Art Unit	Not assigned
Examiner Name	Not assigned
Attorney Docket Number	END5008CIP1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
/MA/		3,504,699		Grise	04-07-1970	
		3,773,233		Souza	11-20-1973	
		4,436,519		O'Neill	03-13-1994	
		4,601,710		Moll	07-22-1986	
		4,610,665		Matsumoto et al.	09-09-1986	
		4,654,030		Moll et al.	03-31-1987	
		4,655,752		Honkamen et al.	04-07-1987	
		4,902,280		Lander	02-20-1990	
		4,931,042		Holmes et al.	06-05-1990	
		4,932,633		Johnson et al.	06-12-1990	
		5,030,206		Lander	07-09-1991	
		5,053,013		Ensminger et al.	10-01-1991	
		5,104,383		Shichman	04-14-1992	
		5,203,773		Green	04-20-1993	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ³
		Office ⁴	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
			EP0568383		Ethicon Inc.	11-03-1993		
			WO 94/03232		C.R. Bard, Inc.	02-17-1994		
V			EP0339945		Adair	11-02-1998		

Examiner Signature	/Michael Anderson/	Date Considered	08/03/2007
-----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 5

Application Number	10/678,502
Filing Date	October 15, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michael S. Cropper et al.
Group Art Unit	Not assigned
Examiner Name	Not assigned
Attorney Docket Number	END5008CIP1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
/MA/		5,209,737		Ritchart et al.	05-11-1993	
		5,211,634		Vaillancourt	05-18-1993	
		5,246,425		Hunsberger et al.	08-21-1993	
		5,300,033		Miller	04-05-1994	
		5,308,336		Hart et al.	05-03-1994	
		5,324,270		Kayan et al.	06-28-1994	
		5,342,315		Rowe et al.	08-30-1994	
		5,364,372		Danks et al.	11-15-1994	
		5,366,445		Haber et al.	11-22-1994	
		5,385,552		Haber et al.	01-31-1995	
		5,385,553		Hart et al.	01-31-1995	
		5,441,041		Sauer et al.	08-15-1995	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ³
		Office ²	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
			WO/ 0035529		Syntheon, LLC	06-22-2000		
			DE10100756		Universitaetsklinikum Freiburg	08-14-2002		
			WO2004/033004		Applied Medical	04-22-2004		

Examiner Signature	/Michael Anderson/	Date Considered	08/03/2007
-----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 3 of 5

Application Number	10/678,502
Filing Date	October 15, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michael S. Cropper et al.
Group Art Unit	Not assigned
Examiner Name	Not assigned
Attorney Docket Number	END5008CIP1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
/MA/		5,456,284		Ryan et al.	10-10-1995	
		5,467,762		Sauer et al.	11-21-1995	
		5,534,009		Lander	07-09-1996	
		5,542,931		Gravener et al.	08-06-1996	
		5,569,160		Sauer et al.	10-29-1996	
		5,578,016		Zinger	11-26-1996	
		5,584,850		Hart et al.	12-17-1996	
		5,603,702		Smith et al.	02-18-1997	
		5,628,732		Antoon, Jr. et al.	05-13-1997	
		5,643,301		Mollenauer	07-01-1997	
		5,743,884		Hasson et al.	04-28-1998	
		5,792,113		Kramer et al.	08-11-1998	
		5,800,451		Buess et al.	09-01-1998	
		5,807,338		Smith et al.	09-15-1998	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ³
		Office ⁴	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				

Examiner Signature	/Michael Anderson/	Date Considered	08/03/2007
-----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 4 of 5

Application Number	10/678,502
Filing Date	October 15, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michael S. Cropper et al.
Group Art Unit	Not assigned
Examiner Name	Not assigned
Attorney Docket Number	END5008CIP1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
/MA/		5,895,377		Smith et al.	04-20-1999	
		6,017,356		Frederick et al.	01-25-2000	
		6,024,729		Dehdashtian et al.	02-15-2000	
		6,086,603		Termin et al.	07-11-2000	
		6,093,176		Dennis	07-25-2000	
		6,254,529	B1	Ouchi	07-03-2001	
		6,277,100	B1	Raulerson et al.	08-21-2001	
		6,302,852		Fleming, III et al.	10-16-2001	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ²
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				

Examiner Signature	/Michael Anderson/	Date Considered	08/03/2007
-----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 5 of 5	Application Number	10/678,502
	Filing Date	October 15, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Michael S. Cropper et al.
	Group Art Unit	Not assigned
	Examiner Name	Not assigned
	Attorney Docket Number	END5008CIP1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
/MA/		2002/0007153	A1	Wells et al.	01-17-2002	
		2002/0010425	A1	Guo et al.	01-24-2002	
		6,352,520	B1	Mizyazaki	04-05-2002	
		2003/0060770	A1	Wing et al.	03-27-2003	
		6,569,120	B1	Green et al.	05-27-2003	
		6,610,031	B1	Chin	08-26-2003	
		6,613,063	B1	Hunsberger	09-02-2003	
		2003/0187397	A1	Vitali	10-02-2003	
		6,685,630	B2	Sauer et al.	02-03-2004	
		6,702,787	B2	Racenet et al.	03-09-2004	
		2004/0049173	A1	White et al.	03-11-2004	
		2004/0064100	A1	Smith	04-01-2004	
		2004/0111060	A1	Racenet	06-10-2004	
		2004/0147949	A1	Stellon et al.	07-29-2004	
		2004/0230161	A1	Zeiner	11-08-2004	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ²
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				

Examiner Signature	/Michael Anderson/	Date Considered	08/03/2007
-----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

SUBMISSION UNDER MPEP 609 D

Page 1 of 1

Confirmation Number	9047
Application Number	10/687,502
Filing Date	October 15, 2003
First Named Inventor	Mike S. Cropper et al.
Group Art Unit	3763
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	END-5008CIP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature	/Michael Anderson/	Date Considered	08/03/2007
-----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	------------